

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Original) Weighing system for measuring the body weight of a patient lying in a horizontal/bed-top position, which comprises:

- a stretcher,
- a strap for suspending the stretcher and
- weighing means,

characterized in that the weighing means are placed on top of the surface on which the patient is lying.

2. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 1, wherein the weighing means comprise weighing beam (3) which has support members (28), the support members comprising ~~stabilising~~ stabilizing bases (29).

3. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 2, wherein said support members (28) are parts with D-shaped cross-section made of tough material and rotatable around the joints (28a) of said support arms in circular sectors.

4. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to ~~claims 2 or 3~~ claim 2, wherein the support members (28) and the ~~stabilising~~ stabilizing bases (29) of the weighing beam are collapsible.

5. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 1, wherein the stretcher is a metallic stretcher (~~scoop stretcher or shovel stretcher~~), the frame of which has points (7) for fastening the suspension belt (9, 10), preferably four in number.

6. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 5, wherein the fastening points (7) of the stretcher have counter-supports (8).

7. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to ~~any one of the claims 4 to 6~~ claim 4, wherein the stretcher is collapsible.

8. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to ~~any one of the claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4, wherein the frame of said stretcher is ~~dismantable~~ can be dismantled in two or more parts.

9. (Original) Weighing system according to claim 1, wherein the stretcher's surface has preferably orthogonal shape, is soft and made of fabric or synthetic material.

10. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 9, wherein the soft surface of said stretcher is ~~dismantable~~ can be dismantled in more than one ~~parts (1, H)~~ part.

11. (Currently Amended) Weighing system according to claim 1, wherein the suspension strap has central long part ~~(9)~~ and members ~~(10)~~, the end of each arm attaching at the fastening points ~~(7)~~ and having safety hooks ~~(10a)~~.

12. (Original) Weighing system according to claim 11, wherein the suspension belt is made of flexible, soft and rugged material, with high friction coefficient.

13. (Currently Amended) Method for measuring the body weight of a patient lying in a horizontal/bed-top position, by using the system as claimed in ~~the preceding claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, which comprises:

- assembling the stretcher under the patient,
- positioning the weighing means astride the patient and near his ~~centre~~ center of gravity and
- suspending the stretcher with the patient by using ~~[[a]]~~ suspension straps, characterized in that said weighing system is positioned on the surface on which the patient is lying.